

Attorney Docket No. 31608-210847

**DECLARATION FOR UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION
POWER OF ATTORNEY, DESIGNATION OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, and that I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

**THERMOPLASTIC STIFFENING MATERIAL FOR SHOE PRODUCTION AND
AN UNDERLYING PRODUCTION PROCEDURE**

the specification of which was filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty on March 27, 2004 and given International Application No. PCT/EP2004/003300, the United States of America having been designated.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

● I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56.

I HEREBY CLAIM foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number	Country	Foreign Filing Date	Priority Claimed
DE 10316173-47	Germany	April 11, 2003	Yes

I HEREBY CLAIM the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §119(c) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

U.S. Provisional Application Number	Filing Date

I hereby appoint the registered attorneys and agents of VENABLE associated with the following customer number to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

26694
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

VENABLE is located at 575 7th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004, Telephone: (202) 344-4000, Telefax: (202) 344-8300. Address all correspondence to VENABLE, Post Office Box 34385, Washington, D.C. 20043-9998.

The undersigned hereby authorizes the registered U.S. attorneys and agents identified herein to accept and follow instructions from the undersigned's assignee, if any, and/or, if the undersigned is not a resident of the United States, the undersigned's domestic attorney, patent attorney or patent agent, as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between U.S. attorneys and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the person(s) from whom instructions may be taken, the registered U.S. attorneys and agents identified herein will be so notified by the undersigned.

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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